

Conservation Reserve Program General Sign-up 26

Checklist for FSA County Offices to work with NRCS Field Offices

The following documentation is provided in the FSA CRP training notebook for addressing the technical requirements of permanent vegetation establishment (N1a CP/Cover Matrix) under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

- ✓ Draft Oklahoma NRCS Technical Note, Biology OK-30.
This document details the cover requirements by CRP CP cover type and correlates to the CP/Cover Matrix – Exhibit 19 to 2CRP. It will be used at the local level to describe the suitable cover types for which N1a, Wildlife Habitat Cover Benefits, can be awarded.
- ✓ Pasture and Hay Planting Standard and Specification (512)
This document provides the primary reference for adapted plants to be included under practice CP1, Permanent introduced grasses and legumes.
- ✓ Range Planting Standard and Specification (550)
This document provides the primary reference for adapted plants to be included under practice CP2, Establishment of permanent native grasses.
- ✓ Tree and Shrub Establishment Standard and Specification (612)
This document provides the primary reference for adapted plants to be included under practice CP3 and CP3A, Tree Planting and Hardwood Tree Planting, respectively.
Supporting data for this specification includes:
Oklahoma MLRA Map, December 1992 (Major Land Resource Areas),
Annual Precipitation Map of Oklahoma, November 2001

Acquire locally:

- ✓ County soil survey, if not already on hand.
- ✓ A copy of the Rangeland Productivity and Characteristic Plant Communities table.
This is located behind the Rangeland, Grazed Forestland, Native Pastureland Interpretations tab in Section II of the Field Office Technical Guide. Include with the Range Planting Specification (550) in the FSA training information for practice CP2.

Specific actions necessary for identifying the acceptable/eligible covers for CRP offers in a particular county.

CP1, Permanent introduced grasses (Producers may not be eligible to bid in this category due to lack of locally adapted species.)

With local NRCS District Conservationist review the following:

- ☐ Draft Technical Note, Biology OK-30, CP1 – Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes for 10 point and 40 point cover types
Note: These cover types are significantly different than previous year's CRP sign-up criteria. A mixture of introduced grasses is required to be eligible. There are compatibility issues relative to the mixing of introduced grasses and not all counties or even soils within a county will be eligible for the CP1 cover. Also, cool and warm season grasses cannot be mixed to provide the total number of species required.
- ☐ Pasture and Hay Planting Standard and Specification (512), Table 1 Grasses.
Narrow the list of grasses found in the table to those listed in the Biology Note OK-30, see

table below. Determine the grasses eligible for CP1 and the sites (soils) to which the grasses are adapted.

- ☐ Draft Technical Note, Biology OK-30, Table 1. Legumes best suited for wildlife
For the CP1, 40 point cover, determine from the list the adapted legumes for the county. Add to the list below.
- ☐ Range Planting Standard and Specification (550), Table 1, Native forbs and native legumes, Page GS-550-7.
For the CP1, 40 point cover, determine from the list the adapted legumes and forbs for the county. Add to the list below.

CP1 - Locally adapted or acceptable grasses for CP1, Decision table.

Growing season	Grasses	Adapted Yes/No	Soils adapted (List symbols)
Cool season introduced grasses	Smooth brome		
	Meadow brome		
	Fescue		
	Orchardgrass		
	Tall wheatgrass		
	Intermediate wheatgrass (Luna, Manska, and pubescent varieties)		
Cool season grasses and warm season grasses cannot be mixed together under CP1.			
Warm season introduced grasses	Yellow bluestem (Plains, WW Spar, Ironmaster, and Ganada varieties)		
	Caucasian		
Native or introduced forbs and legumes (30% of mixture for 40 point cover)			

- ☐ Pasture and Hay Planting Standard and Specification (512).
Review the General Specifications, pages GS-550-3 through GS-550-6, relative to the approved species. Become familiar with seedbed preparation, dead litter cover, and other requirements of the selected grasses in order to provide basic information to the producer in selecting the appropriate species.

CP2, Establishment of permanent grasses (Typically, all sites are available for native grass plantings.)

With local NRCS District Conservationist review the following:

- ☐ Draft Technical Note, Biology OK-30, CP2 – Establishment of permanent native grasses for 20 point and 50 point cover types
Note: These cover types are significantly different than previous year's CRP sign-up criteria. A mixture of native grasses and forb(s) or legume(s) is required to be eligible.
- ☐ Pasture and Hay Planting Standard and Specification (512), Table 1 Grasses.
Narrow the list of grasses found in the table to those native grasses (NPW or NPC) that are adapted to the county and soils. This list will comprise the list of plants acceptable/adapted to the county for the CP2, 20 point mixture.
- ☐ Request from the district conservationist a copy of the Rangeland Productivity and Characteristic Plant Communities table. This is located behind the Rangeland, Grazed Forestland, Native Pastureland Interpretations tab in Section II of the Field Office Technical Guide. Include with the Range Planting Specification (550) in the FSA training information for practice CP2.
This table will be used to correlate the soils map symbol to a specific range site designation. The predominate range site will determine the specific range seeding rates and mixtures table to be used for creating a CP2, native grass mixture.
- ☐ Range Planting Standard and Specification (550), Table 2-15, Pages GS-550-8 through GS-550-14.
For the CP2, 50 point cover, determine the tables that are applicable to your county. The table number can be added by pen and ink to the Rangeland Productivity and Characteristic Plant Communities table as a ready reference to correlate the applicable table to the soil map symbol.
- ☐ Range Planting Standard and Specification (550), Table 1, Native forbs and native legumes, Page GS-550-7.
For the CP2, 20 and 50 point covers, determine from the list the adapted legumes and forbs for the county.
- ☐ Pasture and Hay Planting Standard and Specification (512).
Review the General Specifications, pages GS-550-3 through GS-550-6, relative to the approved species. Become familiar with seedbed preparation, dead litter cover, and other requirements of the selected grasses in order to provide basic information to the producer in selecting the appropriate species.
- ☐ Range Planting Standard and Specification (550), Pages GS-550-1 through GS-550-5.
Review the General Specifications, pages GS-550-3 through GS-550-6, relative to the approved species. Become familiar with seedbed preparation, dead litter cover, and other requirements of the selected grasses in order to provide basic information to the producer in selecting the appropriate species.

CP3 and CP3A, Tree planting (Pine) and Hardwood tree planting, respectively. (Producers may not be eligible to bid in this category due to lack of locally adapted species.)

With local NRCS District Conservationist review the following:

- ☐ Draft Technical Note, Biology OK-30, CP3 – Tree planting (Pine)
- ☐ Tree/Shrub Establishment (612), Attachment 1, Pages 612-6 through 612-9.
Narrow the list of pine/softwood trees found in the attachment to those adapted to the county and soils within the county.

- ☐ Draft Technical Note, Biology OK-30, CP3A – Hardwood tree planting criteria and Table 2.
- ☐ Tree/Shrub Establishment (612), Attachment 1, Pages 612-6 through 612-9.
Using the trees listed in Table 2 of the Biology Technical Note OK-30, narrow the list of trees found in the attachment to those adapted to the county and soils within the county.

CP4B, Permanent Wildlife Habitat (Corridors), Non-easement

- ☐ Review draft Technical Note, Biology OK-30, CP4B, adapted and available species will correlate to the CP1 or CP2 approved species for the 40 point cover and CP2 for the 50 point cover.
- ☐ Other, technical references for this practice may include:
 - ✓ *Range Planting (550)*
 - ✓ *Pasture and Hay Planting (512)*
 - ✓ *Tree/Shrub establishment (612)*

CP4D, Permanent Wildlife Habitat, non-easement

- ☐ Review draft Technical Note, Biology OK-30, CP4B, adapted and available species will correlate to the CP1 or CP2 approved species for the 40 point cover and CP2 for the 50 point cover.
- ☐ Other technical references for this practice may include:
 - ✓ *Range Planting (550)*
 - ✓ *Pasture and Hay Planting (512)*
 - ✓ *Tree/Shrub establishment (612)*

CP10, Vegetative cover – grass – already established

With local NRCS District Conservationist review the following:

- ☐ Review draft Technical Note, Biology OK-30, CP10, Vegetative cover – grass – already established.
- ☐ Technical references for this practice may include:
 - ✓ *30 point cover – All introduced species (IPW and IPC) shown adapted to the county in table 1 of the Pasture and Hay Planting Standard and Specification (512). This list will be larger than the CP1, list of eligible plants. Create this list with the NRCS District Conservationist.*
 - ✓ *40 Point cover – All native grasses (NPW and NPC) shown adapted to the county in table 1 of the Pasture and Hay Planting Standard and Specification (512) and adapted native mixtures of fewer than 3 species shown in the Range Planting Standard and Specification (550). This list will be larger than the CP1, list of eligible plants. Create this list with the NRCS District Conservationist.*
 - ✓ *50 point cover - adapted native mixtures of 3 or more species shown in the appropriate table from the Range Planting Standard and Specification (550) for the predominate range site.*

CP11, Vegetative cover – trees – already established

- ☐ Review draft Technical Note, Biology OK-30, CP10, Vegetative cover – trees – already established. NOTE: This type of offer is not likely to happen in Oklahoma.